

## LABORATORY METHODS FOR DETECTING RABIES



January 28, 2008  
to  
February 1, 2008

Centers for Disease  
Control and Prevention  
Atlanta, GA

Public Health Series Course  
Four and One-Half Days  
Hands-on Program

Sponsored by  
National Laboratory Training  
Network



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### Program Description

Designed for individuals performing rabies testing in public health laboratories, this four and one-half day workshop addresses traditional rabies testing techniques, safety in the rabies laboratory, specimen acquisition and preparation, rabies quality control and proficiency testing, standardized testing procedures, emerging technologies, and epidemiologic issues.

### Application Information

- The "preliminary application" is to be completed online at [www.nltn.org/rabiesapp.htm](http://www.nltn.org/rabiesapp.htm). If you are unable to complete the "Preliminary Application" online, notify telephone (617) 983-6285 or email [neoffice@nltn.org](mailto:neoffice@nltn.org).
- Only **completed** applications received by the deadline of **September 24, 2007** will be considered.
- Priority will be given to applicants from state public health laboratories or applicants from other laboratories recommended by the State Public Health Laboratory Director.
- Consideration will be given to the degree to which the applicant's job description and responsibilities are consistent with the target audience.
- Only two applications per laboratory will be considered. (The laboratory director should prioritize applicants in the event that the course is over-subscribed.)
- **All applicants must submit by fax (617-983-8037) proof of rabies immune status by September 24, 2007.**

### Logistics

Lectures and laboratory exercises will be held at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Clifton Road Campus, Atlanta, GA. Seating is limited. The program fee is \$550.00. Logistical details will be provided upon acceptance into the course. Please do not make travel arrangements at this time. Scholarships are not available.

### Continuing Education Credit

Continuing education credit will be provided.

### Objectives

*At the conclusion of this program, participants will be able to:*

- Describe the basic properties of the rabies virus, its transmission, and disease course as well as relevant epidemiology of rabies in the United States.
- Assess the critical role of the rabies laboratory in terms of diagnostic capability and the interpretation of laboratory results as well as prevention and control of rabies in humans and animals.
- Recommend safe practices for those working in rabies diagnosis or shipping laboratory specimens.
- Identify and prepare appropriate specimens for rabies diagnosis.
- Demonstrate proficiency in observing DFA slides, detecting rabies virus antigen when present and correctly interpreting difficult test results with sparse antigen or non-specific staining.
- Summarize quality control and quality assurance procedures for the rabies diagnostic laboratory including confirmatory diagnostic testing procedures as indicated.
- Review the importance of standardized DFA testing according to a new national protocol.

### Who Should Attend

This advanced-level workshop is designed for the public health microbiologist with responsibilities for bench testing or supervising in the rabies laboratory. Participants must be familiar with the general methods for the safe handling of infectious viruses.

### Special Needs

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals requiring special accommodations should notify the NLTN at 617-983-6285 at least four weeks prior to the course.

# LABORATORY METHODS FOR DETECTING RABIES VIRUS

## Faculty

**Jesse D. Blanton, MPH**  
Epidemiologist

**Ivan V. Kuzmin, MD**  
Associate Service Fellow

**Michael Niezgoda, MS**  
Microbiologist

**Lillian A. Orciari, MT, MS**  
Microbiologist

**Charles Rupprecht, VMD, MS, Ph.D.**  
Chief, Rabies Section

**Martin Sanders, Ph.D., CBSP**  
Deputy Director, Office of Health and Safety

**Yvonne Stifel, BS**  
Biologist, Specimen Management Branch

**Andres Velasco-Villa, Ph.D.**  
Associate Service Fellow

**Pamela Yager, BS**  
Public Health Laboratory Technologist

*All of the above speakers are from the Poxvirus and Rabies Branch, Division of Viral and Rickettsial Diseases, National Center for Zoonotic, Vector-Borne and Enteric Diseases, Coordinating Centers for Infectious Diseases, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, GA*

**James Powell, MS**  
Senior Microbiologist, Rabies Unit, Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene  
Madison, WI

**Dennis Slate, Ph.D.**  
USDA/APHIS, Wildlife Services, USDA Rabies Coordinator, Washington, DC

**Charles V. Trimarchi, MS**  
Chief, Laboratory of Zoonotic Diseases and Clinical Virology, Division of Infectious Disease, Wadsworth Center, New York State Dept. of Health, Albany, NY

